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CLASSIFICATION SECRET
East GermanyCOUNTRY _____
REPORT NO. _____
TOPIC: Soviet Air Force Unit in Finsterwalde

EVALUATION

632751 25X1

DATE OF CO.

DATE OBTAINED

REFERENCES

PAGES

ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

This is UNEVALUATED
Information

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1. The following observations were made at Finsterwalde airfield between 26 February and 5 March 1954:

26 February. Between 2 p.m. and 3:30 p.m., 11-10s individually took off and made flights in the vicinity of the field at an altitude of 600 to 800 meters. The flight time lasted from 20 to 25 minutes. There was a 6/10 overcast and good visibility.

27 February. Between 10 a.m. and noon, there was air activity in the vicinity of the field. The sky was 5/10 overcast and visibility was good. The aircraft which took off and landed individually remained aloft for 20 to 25 minutes, usual duration.

28 February. No flights were made. The sky was 5/10 overcast, visibility was good.

29 February. Between 10 a.m. and noon and between 2 p.m. and 3:30 p.m., there was air activity by ground attack aircraft which took off and landed individually and practiced flying in the vicinity of the field. There was a 3/10 overcast.

3 March. During the morning and afternoon, there was the same air activity by 11-10s as on 2 March. Visibility was good and the sky was 3/10 overcast.

4 March. During the morning, there was air activity by a biplane and by 11-10s which took off and landed individually.

5 March. Ground attack aircraft practiced flying during the morning. There was a 2/10 overcast. The 11-10s involved in air activity had light gray or light blue propeller hubs and were manned by a two-man crew. When no air activity was conducted, all the aircraft were parked in the hangars. 1

2. The following observations were made in the Soviet Air Force installations at Finsterwalde military post between 26 February and 5 March:

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Installation 1. This installation on Forest Strasse housed a Soviet headquarters and some Soviet dependents. The main gate was guarded by a Soviet Air Force sentry armed with a submachine gun. The radio installation in the northwestern corner of the restricted area was removed.

Installation 2. It was occupied by an estimated 200 Soviets. At 8 a.m. on 28 February, five groups of 30 men each were engaged in athletics. The installation was guarded by a Soviet Air Force sentry.

Installation 4. This installation was still occupied by a Soviet hospital.

Installation 5. About 15 trucks were observed there. The gate was only opened for incoming or outgoing vehicles. A Soviet Air Force sentry armed with a submachine gun was posted inside the installation. No definite observations could be made as to the occupation strength but was believed to be rather low.

Installation 6. It housed a Soviet warehouse in which German civilian workers were employed.

Installation 7. This installation which was the Villa Thierack housed the Soviet komendantura; its gate was not guarded by a sentry.

Installation 8. The three villas in this installation were occupied by Soviet officers. The garages were no longer used by motor vehicles. A Soviet Air Force sentry armed with a submachine gun was posted in front of the villas, while the wooden gate was unguarded.

Installation 9. The dwellings on Schacksdorfer Strasse were occupied by Soviet dependents.

1. Comment. During the period under review, mostly young crews of the ground attack regiment made practice flights at Finsterwalde airfield.

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2. Comment. No important changes occurred in the occupation strength of the quartering buildings in Finsterwalde when compared with the last report dated November 1953. It is believed that the individual installations are occupied as follows:

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Installation 1: the ground attack corps headquarters;

Installation 2: officers club, motion picture theater, culture hall, some unidentified offices;

Installation 3: members of the ground attack corps headquarters;

Installation 4: hospital;

Installation 5: motor vehicle repair shop;

Installation 6: main warehouse;

Installation 7: Kreis komendantura;

Installation 8: undetermined;

Installation 9: local komendatura;

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